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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3168
SECDEF WASHDC
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USCINCEUR
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USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T USNATO 4417

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC, NPG
SUBJECT: NPG-AUGUST 18 STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: A. STATE 171434 DTG 2122312 JUL 75
B. USNATO 4036 DTG 311725Z JUL 75
C. USNATO 3921 DTG 251418Z JUL 75

SUMMARY: AT AUGUST 18 MEETING, STAFF GROUP (SG) MEMBERS AGREED WITH U.S. POSITION NOT TO INCLUDE THE SHAPE AIR DEFENSE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY ON FALL NPG MINISTERIAL AGENDA. UK SUGGESTED THE PREPARATION BY CAPITALS AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES OF A STUDY OF NUCLEAR AIR DEFENSE WEAPONS; CHAIRMAN ASKED SG MEMBERS TO PROVIDE NATIONAL VIEWS ON THIS SUGGESTION AT SEPTEMBER 1 MEETING. SG MEMBERS UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE NATIONAL VIEWS ON SEPT 1 ON CARRYING OUT MINISTERIAL REQUEST FOR EXAMINNATION POF PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING COUNTRY REQUEST FOR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. SG ALSO DISCUSSED PHASE III, SELECTIVE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING, AND FUTURE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES. END SUMMARY.

1. AT AUGUST 18 MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP REVIEWED STATUS OF
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PLANNING FOR HAMBURG NPG MEETING AND ITEMS ON NPG FUTURE WORK PROGRAM.

2. AIR DEFENSE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY. U.S. REP (WOODWORTH) RE-

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ITERATED U.S. POSITION (REFS A AND B) AGAINST INCLUSION OF THE SHAPE AIR DEFENSE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY ON THE FALL NPG AGENDA. ITALIAN REP (SPINELLI) SUPPORTED U.S. POSITION. OTHER REPS, IN VARYING DEGREES, INDICATED THAT THEIR AUTHORITIES HAD NOT STRONG VIEWS AND/OR WERE PREPARED TO JOIN A CONSENSUS. CHAIRMAN (SHEARER) SUMMED UP BY SAYING THAT HE SAW A GENERAL CONSENSUS FOR NOT REPEAT NOT INCLUDING THE AIR DEFENSE STUDY ON THE FALL NPG AGENDA. SG MEMBERS AGREED WITH THIS CONCLUSION.

3. UK REP (HARFORD) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES, RECALLING SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S COMMENTS AT MONTEREY ON THE NEED FOR STUDY OF NIKE HERCULES, OFFERED FOR CONSIDERATION THE SUGGESTION OF A STUDY OF NUCLEAR AIR DEFENSE WEAPONS BY CAPITALS AND NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES. HE SAID LONDON ENVISIONED THAT SUCH A STUDY, IF SUFFICIENTLY LIMITED IN SCOPE, MIGHT BE CONDUCTED PRIOR TO THE HAMBURG NPG MEETING. NETHERLANDS, GREEK, GERMAN, CANADIAN AND BELGIAN REPS INDICATED FAVORABLE REACTIONS TO THE UK SUGGESTION, BUT EXPRESSED DOUBTS THAT SUCH A STUDY COULD BE CONDUCTED PRIOR TO THE FALL NPG MEETING. U.S. REP SHARED THESE DOUBTS, AND ADDED THAT MINISTERS NORMALLY TASKED THE CONDUCT OF SUCH STUDIES, WHICH THEY WOULD NOT BE IN POSITION TO DO PRIOR TO THE HAMBURG MEETING. CANADIAN REP (BECKETT) RECALLED THE ANALYTICAL DIFFICULTIES WHICH CAUSED NPG MEMBERS TO DECIDE AGAINST UNDERTAKING AN AIR BATTLE STUDY DURING PHASE I OF THE FOLLOW-ON USE WORK PROGRAM. HE WONDERED WHETHER THE UK SUGGESTION WOULD ENCOUNTER THE SAME DIFFICULTIES. UK REP SAID LONDON ENVISIONED SOMETHING NARROWER IN SCOPE IN ORDER FOR SUCH AN EFFORT TO BE MANAGEABLE. HE SAID HE WOULD "FLESH OUT" THE UK SUGGESTION AT A LATER MEETING, AND ACKNOWLEDGED THE DIFFICULTY OF DOING SUCH A STUDY PRIOR TO THE FALL NPG MEETING. CHAIRMAN WELCOMED PROSPECT OF FURTHER INFORMATION FROM UNK, AND ASKED SG MEMBERS TO PROVIDE REACTIONS OF CAPITALS TO THE UK SUGGESTION AT SEPT 1 SG MEETING. COMMENT. WE SEE POSSIBLE MERIT IN THE UK SUGGESTION, BUT BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD REQUIRE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION FOLLOWED BY NECESSARY GROUND FORK FOR TASKING, POSSIBLY BY MINISTERS AT HAMBURG. WE WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON VIEWS PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 1. END COMMENT.
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4. PHASE III. UK AND FRG (MERKL) REPS SAID THEIR AUTHORITIES WOULD CIRCULATE BY THE END OF THE WEEK OF AUGUST 18 THEIR PROPOSED "SCOPE PAPERS" FOR THE PHASE III PROJECT.

5. SELECTIVE DEMPLOYMENT PLANNING (SEP). CHAIRMAN CALLED ATTENTION TO THE INFORMATION ON SEPS PROVIDED BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE DECEMBER 1974 NPG MEETING (NPG/D(74)9, NPG/D(74)12). HE SAID HE HOPED MILITARY AUTHORITIES WOULD BE ABLE TO ADD TO THIS INFORMATION IN FUTURE DISCUSSIONS. SHAPE REP (DAVIES) SAID SHAPE WOULD ABLE TO PROVIDE SOME INFORMATION ON PROGRESS IN SEPS PROGRAM DURING VISIT BY STAFF GROUP TO SHAPE ON SEPTEMBER 9. SACLANT REP (HELM) NOTED THAT SACLANT WAS IN TOUCH WITH U.S. ON VARIOUS PLANNING ASPECTS, BUT HAD NO NEW IN-

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FORMATION TO ADD TO SEPS AT THIS TIME.

6. COUNTRY REQUEST FOR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. CHAIRMAN NOTED HE HAS RECEIVED NO VIEWS FROM SG MEMBERS ON HOW TO CARRY OUT MINISTERIAL REQUEST AT MONTEREY FOR PERMREP EXAMINATION OF NEED FOR ESTABLISHING MORE DETAILED PROCEDURES FOR FORMULATING AND PROCESSING NUCLEAR RELEASE REQUESTS FROM NATO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS (REF C, PARA 4). HE SAID IS WAS PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE INITIAL DRAFTING IF REQUESTED BY NPG MEMBERS. SEVERAL SG REPS EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THE SUBJECT COULD BE TREATED BRIEFLY, BUT NEED NOT BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO FALL NPG MEETING. CHAIRMAN ASKED SG MEMBERS TO PROVIDE NATIONAL VIEWS AT SEPTEMBER 1 SG MEETING WITH AIM OF REACHING DECISION ON HOW TO CARRY OUT MINISTERIAL REQUEST. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THIS SUBJECT DOES NOT WARRANT ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD-HOC STUDY GROUP. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE STAFF GROUP UNDERTAKE PREPARATION OF A DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT WHICH, IN OUR VIEW, SHOULD (1) BE BRIEF, (2) AVOID GETTING INTO ANY DETAILED PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING COUNTRY REQUESTS, AND (3) BE TIED INTO FRAMEWORK OF CURRENT CONSULTATION GUIDELINES. PRINCIPAL RESULT WE SEE WOULD BE CLEAR PROVISION FOR OBTAINING VIEWS ON MILITARY AUTHORITIES ON A COUNTRY REQUEST FOR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND PRESERVATION OF THE ULTIMATE DECISION OF THE NUCLEAR POWER(S)' ON MY PROPOSED USE. ACTION REQUUESTED. WASHING GUIDANCE BY SEPTEMBER 1 ON HANDLING OF MINISTERIAL REQUEST FOR EXAMINATION OF COUNTRY REQUESTS FOR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

7. FUTURE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES. CHAIRMAN CALLED ATTENTION TO
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IS PAPER ON FUTURE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES (NPG (STAFF GROUP) N (75)59, DATED AUGUST 5, 1975-POUCHED TO STATE AND DEFENSE), AND AASKED SG MEMBERS TO BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT DURING MID-SEPTEMBER PERIOD.
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